AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 2:

Cross Reference to Related Applications

The present application is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 national phase conversion of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007580 filed 14 July 2003, which claims priority from European patent application No. 02018642.5, filed August 20, 2002 and published in the German language.

Please insert the following section heading at page 1, line 3:

Field of the Invention

Please insert the following section heading at page 1, line 16:

Background of the Invention

Please insert the following section heading at page 2, line 27:

Summary of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Various further embodiments relate to the detailed design of the holding pipe, securing element and coolant pipe section. ~~These particular embodiments form the subject matter of claims 6 to 12.~~

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In principle, it is preferably for a holding pipe to in each case surround a coolant pipe section, i.e. for a holding pipe to be led to the outside through the furnace casing, and for a coolant pipe section in each case to be ~~lead~~ led to the outside through the furnace casing inside a holding pipe.

Please insert the following section heading at page 7, line 29:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Fig. 1a shows [[a]] an elevational section through a two-passage cooling plate;

Fig. 1b is a view of the cooling plate of Fig 1a on the path A-A of Fig. 1a;

Fig. 2 shows [[a]] an elevational section through a four-passage cooling plate;

Fig. 2b is a view of the cooling plate of the path A-A of Fig. 2a;

Fig. 3 shows an arrangement of a plurality of cooling plates;

Fig. 4 shows the segmenting of a four-passage cooling plate; and

Fig. 5-9 show various designs of a holding pipe.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Description of Preferred Embodiments

Fig. 1a and 1b ~~Fig. 1~~ shows a two-passage cooling plate 1 which is secured to a furnace casing plate 2. The cooling plate consists of copper and has tongues 3 on the side facing the interior of the furnace. The space between cooling plate 1 and furnace casing plate 2 is backfilled with refractory material 4. Further cooling plates 1' are arranged above and below and - not shown - to the sides of the cooling plate 1. The cooling plate 1 is provided with vertically running cooling passages 5, which are designed as blind bores in the cast or rolled plate body. Coolant pipe sections 6 for supplying and removing coolant (usually water) are led through the furnace casing 2 at the upper and lower ends of each cooling passage 5. At each coolant pipe section 6, a holding pipe 7 - surrounding the coolant pipe section 6 - is likewise led to the outside through the furnace casing. The holding pipe 7 is screwed to a disk-like connecting piece 8, which for its part is secured to the cooling plate 1 by screw connection 9. Outside the furnace casing 2, the holding pipe 7 is provided with a welded-on holding disk 10 which limits the mobility of the cooling plate 1 in the direction of the interior of the furnace. Holding pipe 7 and coolant pipe section 6

are connected in a gastight manner to the furnace casing plate 2 by means of a standard compensator 11. In the center of the cooling plate 1, the latter is fixedly connected to the furnace casing plate 2 by means of a fixed-point securing ~~elements~~ element 12 designed as a securing bolt. The fixed-point securing ~~elements~~ element 12 is welded in a gastight manner to the furnace casing plate 2. Movable-point securing elements 13 are arranged above and below the fixed-point securing elements 12. The movable-point securing elements 13 are likewise designed as securing bolts, but are not welded in a gastight manner to the furnace casing plate 2, but rather each can slide up and down in a respective guide 14. To provide a seal with respect to the interior of the furnace, sealing hoods 15 are arranged over the movable-point securing elements 13.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~Fig. 2 shows~~ Figs. 2a and 2b show a four-passage cooling plate 16 which, apart from having twice the number of cooling passages 5, is substantially identical to the cooling plate 1 illustrated in Fig. 1. On account of the different height/width ratio, however, the movable-point securing elements 13 are not arranged above and below the fixed-point securing ~~elements~~ element 12, but rather are in each case arranged laterally with respect to the latter. The respective guides 14 for the movable-point securing elements 13 are arranged in such a way that ~~they~~ the elements 13 can slide in the horizontal direction.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The design shown [[if]] in Fig. 6 differs from that shown in Fig. 5 in that the connection between holding pipe 7 and cooling plate 1 is produced by welding.